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ance at that meeting need no assurances that it was worth the while of those who could attend. If no program of papers were presented it would yet be well worth while for us to get together for the personal acquaintance and the interchance of experiences and viewpoints. We of the central districts have all along lacked the impetus which has been gained by the people of both coasts through the personal acquaintance which has obtained there to so considerable a degree. While our distances are greater we may, and we expect, to largely offset this handicap by holding successive meetings at places which can be easily reached by practically all in the central districts, in the course of a four-year period.

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### **Minutes of Third Annual Meeting of the Wilson Ornithological Club**

(Columbus, Ohio, December 28 and 29, 1916.)

President, T. C. Stephens.

Secretary, T. L. Hankinson.

(Archæological and Historical Museum.)

Business.

Treasurer's report read and accepted and an auditing committee appointed.

Names of fifty applicants for membership were read, and these were elected to membership by vote of the members present.

The overtures of the Nebraska Ornithological Union resulting in the affiliation of this organization with the Wilson Ornithological Club were accepted by a vote of the members present.

The articles of agreement that were read are here publishd:—

#### **ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT for an AFFILIATION between the NEBRASKA ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION and the WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB**

The following Articles of Agreement, looking toward an affiliation between the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union and the Wilson Ornithological Club, are to be presented to the N. O. U. at its Annual Meeting at Omaha, May 7, 1915, and to the W. O. C. at its Third Annual Meeting at Columbus, Ohio, December 28, 1915.

In the event of their constitutional adoption by both Societies,

these Articles of Agreement are to go into effect at the time of the Seventeenth Annual Meeting of the N. O. U. in May, 1916.

These Articles of Agreement are made in duplicate, one signed copy to remain in the Archives of each Society concerned.

#### ARTICLES OF AGREEMENT.

##### Article I.

The Nebraska Ornithologists' Union shall continue as an autonomous organization, with the same local meetings and field days and the same membership limitations as in the past, but it shall in the future be regarded in addition as an auxiliary of the Wilson Ornithological Club, in the sense that the Wilson Bulletin shall become its official organ and that every member of the N. O. U. becomes automatically an active member, with voting privileges, of the W. O. C.

##### Article II.

An appropriate statement of the relation of the Wilson Bulletin to the N. O. U. shall appear on the title page and the editorial page of the Wilson Bulletin, so long as such relationship exists. The publication of the "Proceedings" of the N. O. U. shall be discontinued at the close of Volume 6, before May 1, 1916, after which the Wilson Bulletin shall print brief proceedings of the Annual Meetings of the N. O. U.

##### Article III.

A clear and detailed statement of the affiliation of the N. O. U. with the W. O. C., together with a brief historical sketch of the N. O. U. and its "Proceedings," shall be published in the first issue of the Wilson Bulletin after the affiliation is consummated.

##### Article IV.

The Secretary-Treasurer of the N. O. U. shall collect from the members of that organization \$2.00 annual dues, and shall pay to the Treasurer of the W. O. C., at the beginning of the fiscal year of the N. O. U., \$1.50 as dues in the W. O. C. for each member of the N. O. U. in good standing, at the same time transmitting to the Treasurer, or other proper officer, of the W. O. C., a corresponding list of the members of the N. O. U. in good standing. The 50 cents collected by the N. O. U. above its obligation to the W. O. C. shall be used for the general expenses of the N. O. U. and to assist in the publication of independent (not serial) monographic papers on the birds of Nebraska, and such publications shall bear the imprint of both the N. O. U. and the W. O. C. Such papers shall be sold by the N. O. U. to its members and to members of the W. O. C., who may desire them, at cost.

## Article V.

It shall be agreed between the N. O. U. and the W. O. C. that the former organization shall be under no financial, or other, obligation to the W. O. C. beyond the payment of the \$1.50 annual dues of its members, and that the W. O. C. shall not be responsible for any debts incurred by the N. O. U.

## Article VI.

If the affiliation be effected, then such persons as are, at the time, members both of the N. O. U. and W. O. C., may continue to hold both such memberships by the payment of regular annual dues to the N. O. U.

We Hereby Certify, that the above Articles of Agreement were adopted by an affirmative vote of two-thirds of the members of the N. O. U. present at the Sixteenth Annual Meeting held at Omaha, Nebraska, May 7, 1915, as required in Sec. 1, Art. IX, of the Constitution of the N. O. U.

T. C. STEPHENS, President,  
LILLIAN S. LOVELAND, Vice-President,  
R. W. DAWSON, Secretary-Treasurer,  
Executive Committee of the N. O. U.

We Hereby Certify, that the above Articles of Agreement were adopted by the W. O. C. at the regular meeting of the Club held at Columbus, Ohio, December 28, 1915.

T. C. STEPHENS, President,  
PERCIVAL BROOKS COFFIN, Treasurer,  
T. L. HANKINSON, Secretary,  
Council of the W. O. C.

An Amendment of the Constitution was proposed. This was that the word "Society" in line 2, Art. I. Sec. 1 of the Constitution be changed to the word "Club."

This amendment, according to the Constitution, was laid on the table till the next Annual Meeting.

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PROGRAM.

Tuesday, December 28

4:00 P. M.

Business Session

8:00 P. M.

Illustrated Lectures

Illustrations of Cyclical Instincts in Birds, Francis H. Herrick,  
Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.

The Bird Reservations of the Coast of Washington, Lynds Jones,  
Spear Laboratory, Oberlin, Ohio.

Wednesday, December 29

9:00 A. M.

Business

10:00 A. M.

President's Address. Some Problems Connected with the Feeding of Nestling Birds, T. C. Stephens, Morningside College, Sioux City, Iowa.

Discussion by Miss Sherman, Dr. Jones, Mr. Henninger.

Papers

2:00 P. M.

Papers

General Notes

4:00 P. M.

Social Hour

6:00 P. M.

Dinner

8:00 P. M.

Illustrated Lectures

Birds of the Mid-Pacific; an Account of the Expedition to the Laysan Islands, H. R. Dill, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa.  
Bird Sculptures from the Mounds, W. C. Mills, Curator of Archaeological and Historical Museum, Columbus, Ohio.

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#### List of Papers

The Relation of Patterns in the Varieties of Domestic Pigeons to Natural Pigment Areas (Illustrated), Leon J. Cole, Department of Experimental Breeding, Madison, Wisconsin.

Discussion by Messrs. Jones and Stephens.

Sapsuckers and Adirondack Trees, C. C. Adams, New York College of Forestry, Syracuse, N. Y.

Discussion by Messrs. Swope, Herrick, Abbott, Metcalf, Nichols, Wallace, Kellogg, Jones, Fordyce.

Additional Report on the Birds of Mahoning County, Ohio, George L. Fordyce, Youngstown, Ohio.

Notes on Birds of Regions with Primitive Prairie Conditions (Illustrated), T. L. Hankinson, State Normal School, Charleston, Illinois.

The Birds of my Boyhood, Howard Jones, Circleville, Ohio.

Nest Life of the Western House Wren, Althea R. Sherman, National, Iowa.

The Extension of Ornithological Information Among the Masses, Albert L. Stephenson, Chicago, Illinois.

Shore Birds and Marsh Birds (Illustrated), Gerard Alan Abbott, Chicago, Illinois.

Some Notes on Ohio Birds, W. F. Henninger, New Bremen, Ohio.  
Greetings from the Audubon Societies, Eugene Swope, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Discussion of the other papers was omitted on account of lack of time.

Four papers with titles on the printed programme were not read, owing to the lack of time or to the absence of the author. These are the following:—

Ornithological Work at the Iowa Lakeside Laboratory (Illustrated), T. C. Stephens.

Notes on the Red-tailed Hawk, B. H. Bailey, Cedar Rapids, Iowa.  
Relative Abundance of Birds as Noted on an Overland Journey, Lynds Jones.

Completion of a Warbler Collection, Gerard Alan Abbott, Chicago, Illinois.

T. L. HANKINSON, Secretary.

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## FIELD NOTES

### THE BLACK RAIL (*Creciscus jamaicensis*) AT ST. MARKS, FLA.

DURING the severe hurricane and accompanying high water on September 4, 1915, two of these birds were picked up exhausted and soon died, and two or three others were seen on the borders of an extensive river marsh at that time entirely submerged. One of the captured birds had been drifted up onto the railroad embankment in our village, where it borders the broad marsh.

JOHN WILLIAMS.

### LAUGHING GULL (*Larus atricilla*) NESTING NEAR ST. MARKS, FLA.

IN Bulletin No. 292 of Bureau of Biological Survey, published October 25, 1915, pages 51-53, no breeding colony of this species is given between Cape Sable and Passage Key and the coast of Louisiana. For many years there has been a nesting colony of these birds about eight miles west of St. Marks' lighthouse—usually on one of two or three small islands about a half-mile off shore. On June 24, 1914, fifteen birds were seen flying near the island. No nests seen. June 6, 1915, fifteen pairs were nesting and on that date nests contained two and three eggs mostly. Two nests had each two very small chicks. June 19, 1915, nests seen June 6 had all been washed away by a high tide and other nests were found about 300 yards distant from former nests, the newly-made nests containing one, two and three eggs; one nest with a single very young bird.

JOHN WILLIAMS.